

In the claims:

1. A tunable drum comprising

a hollow drum shell,

drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,

an opening in said drum shell for acoustic venting, and

valve means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of

acoustic venting.

2. A drum according to claim 1 in which

the variation in acoustic venting varies the volume, pitch, tone, timbre

and stick response of said drum.

3. A tunable drum comprising,

a hollow drum shell,

drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,

an opening through said drum shell for acoustic venting,

means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of

acoustic venting, and

said size adjusting means comprises a slide valve movable between an

open and a closed position.

4. A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-
tween an open and a closed position.

5. A drum according to claim 4, including
means for moving said valves together.

6. A drum according to claim 3, in which
said valves are movable pivotally between an open and a closed posi-
tion, and
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said valves piv-
otally.

7. A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum has a plurality of venting openings
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valve means movable
between an open and a closed position relative to said openings, and
means for moving said valve means between said open and closed posi-
tions.

18. A drum according to claim 3, in which

said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the periphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,

said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having openings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a second ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of drum venting openings

said first and second ring members being movable between an open and a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and

an operating member secured to said first and said second ring members for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by said drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said open and closed positions.

19. A drum according to claim 3, in which

said drum has a tensioning ring for securing a drumhead under high tension on the drumshell,

said tensioning ring having an upstanding rim portion,

said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery of the drumshell and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the periphery of said rim portion spaced from said first plurality of openings,

said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having openings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a second ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of drum venting openings,

said first and second ring members being movable between an open and a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and

an operating handle secured to said first and said second ring members for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by said drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said open and closed positions.

20. The combination with a drum having a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, of

a ring member of a size having a sliding fit in the drumshell for movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

21. A combination according to claim 20 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member has openings, is split at one place, and has compressed spring means tending to expand the ring member to fit tightly inside said drum, and

said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

**22. A combination according to claim 21 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member has openings corresponding to said drum venting
openings,
said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position
relative to said openings.**

**23. A combination according to claim 21 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member is imperforate, and movable endwise of the drumshell
between an open and a closed position across said openings.**

**24. A combination according to claim 21 in which,
there are two ring members,
means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation, and
handles extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum
for moving said rings in the drum shell.**

**25. A combination according to claim 21 in which,
there are two ring members,
handle means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation,
and extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum for
moving said rings simultaneously in the drum shell.**

**26. The combination with a drum, of
a tensioning ring fitted on the end of the drumshell to tension a drum-
head thereon,
said tensioning ring having a plurality of venting openings therein, and
a ring member of a size having a sliding fit on said tensioning ring for
movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.**

**27. A combination according to claim 26 in which,
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit inside said tensioning
ring.**

**28. A combination according to claim 26 in which,
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit on the outside of said
tensioning ring.**